Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant hereby appeals to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the decision of the Examiner dated July 28, 2003, finally rejecting Claims 1-8, 12-16 and 24-26. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(b), the fee for this Notice of Appeal is \$330.00. PTO Form 2038 is enclosed to cover the required fees.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-3140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

02/02/2004 EFLORES 00000011 09944234

02 FC:1401

330.00 OP

Paul E. Rauch, Ph.D. Registration No. 38,591 Attorney for Applicant

SONNENSCHEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP P. O. BOX 061080 WACKER DRIVE STATION, SEARS TOWER CHICAGO, IL 60606 (312) 876-8000